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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/721,200	11/25/2003	Takayuki Hoshino	15162/05610	5512
24367	7590	01/12/2006		
SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP 717 NORTH HARWOOD SUITE 3400 DALLAS, TX 75201			EXAMINER ADDISON, KAREN B	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2834	

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/721,200

Applicant(s)

HOSHINO, TAKAYUKI

Examiner

Karen B. Addison

Art Unit

2834

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7-11 and 13 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 5 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/8/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 5 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakano.

Nakano disclose an actuator in fig.6 and15 comprising a drive circuit (23) for use with an actuator that comprises a piezoelectric element which expands and contract by application of a driving signal, a drive member (10) fixed to one end of the piezoelectric element (28) along an expanding/contracting direction thereof and a movable member frictionally engaging on the driving member (fig.6). Nakano also discloses a series circuit containing a capacitive element and an inductive element connected in series thereto, which is connected in parallel to the piezoelectric elements (L4, L5, C4, C5). Fig.13, and the general description confirm, that the drive signals are applied with different speeds to achieve the desired output motion. Rectangular pulses are used.

3. Claim 6 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

prior art fails to show inductive element is set to have an inductance value that produces an antiresonance with damping capacitance of the piezoelectric element.

Art Unit: 2834

Claims 1-4, 7-11 and 13 are allowed.

Prior art fails to show, a parallel circuit containing an inductive element connected in parallel to said piezoelectric element; and a capacitive element, connected in series to said parallel circuit, for removing an DC component of said rectangular wave signal, wherein said parallel circuit and said capacitive element and rectangular element are provided between said piezoelectric a voltage applying circuit for applying said wave signal to said piezoelectric element. Prior art also fails to show, voltage applying circuit which, by dividing said element array into a plurality of piezoelectric element units each having piezoelectric element, applying a first sinusoidal wave signal to the piezoelectric element in a first piezoelectric element unit of the piezoelectric element array, and for applying an n -th sinusoidal wave signal of a frequency times a frequency said first sinusoidal wave signal piezoelectric element an n -th piezoelectric element unit of the piezoelectric element array, where n is an integer larger than 1 and an inductive element connected in each of said plurality piezoelectric between said voltage applying circuit and said element parallel to elements and array.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Yuasa (figure 6A) Yoshida (figure 23) Kawabe (figures 2 and 15) Okada and Hamada.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karen B. Addison whose telephone number is 571-272-2017. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg can be reached on 571-272-2044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KBA
1/9/06



DARREN SCHUBERG
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